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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/549,480	09/15/2005	Masahiro Yamakawa	4670-0110PUS1	8164
2292 7590 03/10/2010 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747				
EXAMINER				
REDDY, KARUNA P				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1796				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/10/2010		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

***Attachment to Advisory Action***

1. Applicants' amendment filed 3/1/2010 has been fully considered; however, the amendment has not been entered given that it introduces new issues and new claims (claims 12-13) that would require further consideration and/or search.
2. With respect to new issue, claim 11 introduces the new limitation "monomer units (b) derived from acrylonitrile". This is in contrast to the earlier amended claim filed 8/25/2009, which recited "monomer units (b) derived from an  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile compound". Therefore, present amendment would require further consideration and/or search.
3. In the interest of better enabling the applicants to assess the patentability of their claims, the following advisory is given:

It is noted that examples (example 1 and comparative example 1) in cited prior art of Yamamoto et al (US 2002/0034686 A1) referred to by the applicant do not represent closest prior art example used in the rejection set forth in paragraphs 3-4 of preceding office action mailed 11/4/2009. Example 1 of Yamamoto et al does not use component "c" required by the instant claims and taught in example 2 of Yamamoto. It is the examiner's position that comparison should be with that of the closest prior art (i.e. example 2 in Yamamoto et al).

/K. P. R./

Examiner, Art Unit 1796

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/Vasu Jagannathan/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796